

DescriptionDevice for Cleaning and Rinsing Drinking Vessels

This invention relates to a device for cleaning and rinsing drinking vessels, comprising a pre-rinse pan with cleaning brushes which is open on the top, and next to it a post-rinse device which has a vertical conductor tube for water supply, said post-rinse device and said pre-rinse pan being connected to a single water connection, and comprising a base which is formed as a hollow body and which has arranged thereon said pre-rinse pan **and said post-rinse device and** which has in the interior thereof the water feeds for the pre-rinse pan and the post-rinse device.

In such known devices the base usually consists of an open moulded part made of metal or a plastic material, wherein said water connection for fresh water supply and the connection passages to the spray tubes of the post-rinse device and to the pre-rinse pan of the pre-rinse device are exposed. Accordingly, said connection passages are freely accessible for repair work, but this is not necessary as a rule in view of the low susceptance to trouble and the stability of such devices.

From GB 1 453 028 A a device for cleaning and rinsing drinking vessels as described in the preamble of claim 1 is known, comprising a base that is formed as a hollow body resting on suction legs, with a pre-rinse device and a post-rinse device being arranged side-by-side on the upper side of said base. On the base a lateral passage opening for a pipeline is provided for supplying water to several connecting sleeves on the underside of the pre-rinse device and the post-rinse device. In this device the base is provided on the bottom side thereof with a detachable bottom plate that extends over the entire underside of the device below the water connections for the pre-rinse device and for the post-rinse device and that has to be detached for maintenance and cleaning and re-attached to the device.

vice. In this device sealing means are provided with the tube passage opening in the rim of the bottom plate, so that penetration of water and humidity into the hollow space of said base and accordingly to the connecting sleeve for the pre-rinse device and for the post-rinse device cannot be prevented. This may easily cause deposits of dirt and bacteria in the interior of the base and eventually also bad odor. This would by no means meet the hygiene requirements and regulations of today.

From CH 210 957 A there is also known a simple device for cleaning drinking vessels without any water stop valves and with a single cleaning pan on a base plate that includes a chamber filled with water and a connecting sleeve laterally leading into said chamber and serving for the connection of a water conduit. Said base plate has rubber suction cups on the bottom side thereof which serve as feet.

A device for cleaning drinking vessels comprising lower suction cups is further known from US 3 838 473 A.

It is a problem of the invention to improve a device for cleaning and rinsing drinking vessels as stated in the preamble of claim 1 to an extent that said device has on the bottom side of the base merely a single connecting sleeve for a water hose for fresh water supply, which connecting sleeve is easily accessible from outside, whereas the remaining connectors branching off to the spray tubes of the post-rinse device as well as to the pre-rinse pan of the pre-rinse device are encapsulated on the underside of the base against any contact with the water surrounding the device in the rinsing basins of public houses and are also protected against any mechanical damage or deposits of dirt.

According to the invention this problem is solved by said base being encapsulated in a watertight fashion and that on said base a sealed

passage opening for a connecting sleeve for securing a water hose for water supply is provided.

By the present invention the advantage is obtained that the connections for fresh water supply to the device and the water feeds for the distribution of the fresh water to the pre-rinse device and the post-rinse device can be mounted already at the manufacturers in such a way that they are fully protected both against mechanical damage and against dirt in the interior of the base which is formed as a hollow body. On the underside of the base there is only a single externally arranged connecting sleeve for securing a water hose for water supply to the cleaning and rinsing device, which can be easily detached for cleaning and as easily re-attached to the device.

A particular advantage **also** is that on the base there is only a **single** sealed passage opening for **the** connecting sleeve for fixing **the** water hose for water supply to the entire cleaning and rinsing device. **Thereby it is made possible for the sealing cap together with the sleeve for fresh water supply to be readily exchanged without complicated installation work while maintaining the sealing function.**

Furthermore, it is particularly **advantageous that** said connecting sleeve **is** configured as a sealing cap which at the same time serves as a water connection. **Thanks to this configuration it is possible to reduce the number of individual parts that are required, resulting in low manufacturing costs as well as in a safe operation of the cleaning and rinsing device.**

Patent Claims

1. Device (1) for cleaning and rinsing drinking vessels, comprising a pre-rinse pan (4) which is open on the top and includes cleaning brushes, and arranged next to it a post-rinse device (5 **or 4a**) with a vertical conductor tube (6) for supplying water, said post-rinse device (5 **or 4a**) and said pre-rinse pan (4) being connected to a water connection (7), and comprising a base (3) that is formed as a hollow body, on which base said pre-rinse pan (4) **and said post-rinse device (5 or 4a) are fixed and** in the interior of which the water feeds for the pre-rinse pan (4) and the post-rinse device (5 **or 4a**) are located, ***characterized in that said base (3) is encapsulated in a watertight fashion and that it has arranged thereon a sealed passage opening (10) for a connecting sleeve (12) for securing a water hose for water supply.***
2. Device according to claim 1, ***characterized in*** that said connecting sleeve (12) is configured as a sealing cap (11) which at the same time serves as a water connection (7).
3. Device according to **claim 1 or 2, *characterized in*** that said sealing cap (11) is sealed by means of O-rings (17, 18) both on a screw neck (19) inside the base (3) and on said passage opening (10) of the base (3) against the outside.
4. Device according to any one of the claims 1 to 3, ***characterized in*** that said connecting sleeve (12) is directed radially laterally from said sealing cap (11).
5. Device according to any one of the claims 1 to 4, ***characterized in*** that said connecting sleeve (12) together with the sealing cap (11) can be pivoted about the axis thereof.

6. Device according to any one of the claims 1 to 5, ***characterized in*** that said passage opening (10) for the water connection (7) is arranged on the underside of the base (3), and that the water supply to the cleaning and rinsing device takes place through an angled connecting sleeve (12).
7. Device according to any one of the claims 1 to 6, ***characterized in*** that said water hose (14) can be secured to the connecting sleeve (12) by means of a self-clamping plug-type coupler (13).
8. Device according to any one of the claims 1 to 7, ***characterized in*** that said base housing (8) which is formed as a hollow body includes downwardly directed supporting legs (24) which are formed integrally with said base housing on the rim thereof and which have suction cups (25) mounted to them.